

A matched pair of flintlock pocket pistols in factory new condition (Cat#4)



These turn-off barrel flintlock pistols are a rare find indeed; they are as they came from the workshop of James Starnes in Romford, Essex in the later part of the eighteenth century or very early in the nineteenth century.

Heer's Der Neue Stockel has James Starnes working at High Street Romford between 1791 and 1839.

I purchased these guns from the USA from a seller who thought they were made by St. Arnes. They were covered in the original coating of (probably) shellac and were, overall, grubby and unattractive.

It was clear that these guns had never been fired or even snapped, the roller frizzens are near perfect with only mild handling marks, probably from customs inspection.

The round locks are beautifully engraved with stands of arms. They are signed in cartouches "Starnes" on one side and "Romford" on the other.

With deeply engraved leaf ornament at the muzzles. The pistols are Birmingham proved.

With blued and engraved sliding safety.

The real stand-out feature of these pistols is the beautiful multi-colored case hardening from orange through to deep blue.

The micro-chequered stocks carry vacant oval escutcheons.

Outside of presentation sets, I have never seen pocket pistols in this condition.

Condition "Factory new" as per NRA Museum standards.





